

*Louisiana Department of Agriculture*  
MARKET NEWS SERVICE  
STATE MARKET COMMISSION

GILBERT L. DOZIER  
COMMISSIONER

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**Louisiana Forest Products**

**Quarterly Market Report**

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Louisiana Department of Agriculture  
Market News Service  
State Market Commission  
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TIMBER CUTTINGS, OCTOBER-DECEMBER, 1976 WITH COMPARISONS

Sawlogs cut in Louisiana during the first eleven months of 1976 totaled 1,170,318,316 board feet. This volume represents an increase of 32.5 percent compared with the same period a year ago and is 11.7 percent above the 1970-74 average.

Pulpwood harvested through November, 1976 amounted to 3,059,994 cords. Cuttings are up 14.4 percent from a year ago but are down 2.1 percent compared with the previous five-year average.

Additional timber harvested so far this year includes 12,040,123 board feet of sawtimber and 17,466 cords of pulpwood under reforestation contracts.

MARKET SUMMARY, FOURTH QUARTER, 1976

Stumpage prices paid for pine sawlogs average \$107.25 per thousand board feet for the last quarter of 1976. This price represents a yearly increase of 23.8 percent with 19.1 percent of the increase occurring during the first six months. Hardwood prices fluctuated slightly during the year. After showing small price increases during the second quarter of 1976, prices for most species ended unchanged from a year earlier. Exceptions were Oaks and mixed Hardwood. Along with Cypress, these species averaged about 8 percent above Oct.-Dec. 1975 prices.

Pole prices made significant gains during the year with most increases showing up in the second and fourth quarters. Sizeable price increases were made in Class 2 forties, fifties, and fifty-fives. Overall, the greatest percentage gain was made in sixty, sixty-fives, and seventy lengths.

Pulpwood stumpage averaged \$6.80 and \$2.95 per cord for pine and hardwood respectively. Compared with year ago, these prices represent a small but gradual increase.

Wood Chips averaged \$11.60 per ton for pine and \$9.25 for hardwood F.O.B. sawmill.

During the October-December quarter, the following U.S.D.A. Forest Service Sales for Kisatchie National Forest were reported. 1/

| Specie    | SAWLOGS       |                           | PULPWOOD |                            |
|-----------|---------------|---------------------------|----------|----------------------------|
|           | MBF <u>2/</u> | Ave. Price<br>Dollars/MBF | Cords    | Ave. Price<br>Dollars/Cord |
| Syp       | 4,488         | 142.15                    | 13,331   | 5.91                       |
| Mx. Hdwd. | 127           | 24.50                     | ---      | ---                        |

1/ Does not include salvage sales

AVERAGE PRICES PAID TO LOUISIANA TIMBER PRODUCERS BY TYPES OF INDUSTRIES, OCTOBER-DECEMBER, 1976  
WITH COMPARISONS

Forest Service Sales are excluded from following reported prices

|  |          |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  | STATE AVERAGE  |                  |                      |
|--|----------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------------|
|  |          |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  | Oct.-Dec. 1976 | Previous Quarter | Same Period Year Ago |
| (A) Sawlogs (Stumpage)                                   |          | Area 1 (Dollars) | Area 2 (Dollars) | Area 3 (Dollars) | Area 4 (Dollars) | Area 5 (Dollars) | (Dollars)      | (Dollars)        | (Dollars)            |
| Pine   | M.Bd.Ft. | 111.30           | 112.00           | 101.50           | 109.00           | 1/               | 107.25         | 103.40           | 84.40                |
| Cypress  | "        | 35.50            | 51.90            | 37.50            | 41.65            | 40.00            | 40.95          | 40.85            | 37.75                |
| Oaks   | "        | 37.75            | 40.40            | 32.15            | 41.65            | 42.00            | 38.05          | 38.10            | 34.95                |
| Gums   | "        | 34.05            | 38.75            | 33.55            | 38.35            | 40.00            | 36.40          | 37.25            | 36.40                |
| Willow   | "        | 32.50            | 30.60            | 1/               | 40.00            | 40.00            | 35.60          | 37.05            | 34.75                |
| Ash  | "        | 35.35            | 58.10            | 38.35            | 48.35            | 47.50            | 44.30          | 46.20            | 44.50                |
| Cottonwood   | "        | 34.60            | 41.90            | 38.35            | 41.65            | 42.00            | 39.30          | 39.75            | 38.00                |
| Mixed Hardwoods"   |          | 35.50            | 41.50            | 32.50            | 37.50            | 35.00            | 37.40          | 36.80            | 35.20                |
|  |          |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                |                  |                      |
| (B) Sawlogs (Delivered)                                  |          |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                |                  |                      |
| Pine   | M.Bd.Ft. | 148.40           | 148.75           | 140.85           | 145.00           | 1/               | 145.10         | 140.75           | 122.20               |
| Cypress  | "        | 79.40            | 98.10            | 87.50            | 94.00            | 95.00            | 90.90          | 90.10            | 84.40                |
| Oaks   | "        | 84.65            | 95.40            | 85.00            | 94.00            | 97.50            | 90.05          | 87.90            | 79.35                |
| Gums   | "        | 84.60            | 92.90            | 87.85            | 90.85            | 97.50            | 90.10          | 88.50            | 82.35                |
| Willow   | "        | 79.15            | 85.50            | 1/               | 92.50            | 95.00            | 88.15          | 85.40            | 79.30                |
| Ash  | "        | 79.50            | 106.50           | 80.00            | 100.85           | 100.00           | 93.60          | 93.20            | 89.10                |
| Cottonwood   | "        | 78.10            | 93.50            | 80.00            | 94.15            | 97.50            | 89.10          | 88.65            | 83.40                |
| Mixed Hardwoods"   |          | 81.25            | 94.65            | 81.45            | 92.50            | 91.65            | 87.40          | 87.30            | 81.15                |
|  |          |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                |                  |                      |
| Poles, Barky (FOB Plant or Concentration Point) - Each - |          |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                |                  |                      |
| 30-Ft. Class   | 5        | 9.40             | 1/               | 9.55             | 1/               | 1/               | 9.30           | 9.25             | 8.75                 |
| "  | 6        | 7.85             | 1/               | 7.95             | 1/               | 1/               | 7.80           | 7.90             | 7.30                 |
| "  | 7        | 5.30             | 1/               | 6.65             | 1/               | 1/               | 6.00           | 6.35             | 5.70                 |
| 35-Ft. Class   | 4        | 15.10            | 1/               | 16.20            | 1/               | 1/               | 15.60          | 15.45            | 13.95                |
| "  | 5        | 13.25            | 1/               | 14.30            | 1/               | 1/               | 13.50          | 13.45            | 12.15                |
| "  | 6        | 10.55            | 1/               | 11.70            | 1/               | 1/               | 10.55          | 10.80            | 9.65                 |
| "  | 7        | 7.85             | 1/               | 1/               | 1/               | 1/               | 8.50           | 8.45             | 7.40                 |
| 40-Ft. Class   | 2        | 30.65            | 1/               | 1/               | 1/               | 1/               | 30.25          | 26.80            | 25.65                |
| "  | 3        | 26.80            | 1/               | 23.60            | 1/               | 1/               | 25.00          | 22.70            | 21.75                |
| "  | 4        | 20.90            | 1/               | 20.25            | 1/               | 1/               | 20.55          | 19.45            | 18.00                |
| "  | 5        | 17.90            | 1/               | 18.10            | 1/               | 1/               | 17.85          | 17.20            | 15.65                |
| "  | 6        | 13.50            | 1/               | 1/               | 1/               | 1/               | 13.85          | 13.75            | 11.95                |
| 45-Ft. Class   | 2        | 35.50            | 1/               | 33.60            | 1/               | 1/               | 34.55          | 32.80            | 31.80                |
| "  | 3        | 31.65            | 1/               | 28.05            | 1/               | 1/               | 29.60          | 27.50            | 26.00                |
| "  | 4        | 26.30            | 1/               | 24.40            | 1/               | 1/               | 25.30          | 23.30            | 21.90                |
| "  | 5        | 22.65            | 1/               | 21.40            | 1/               | 1/               | 22.00          | 20.45            | 19.25                |
| 50-Ft. Class   | 2        | 41.30            | 1/               | 44.95            | 1/               | 1/               | 43.15          | 38.35            | 36.70                |
| "  | 3        | 36.35            | 1/               | 33.50            | 1/               | 1/               | 34.50          | 32.60            | 31.30                |
| "  | 4        | 30.60            | 1/               | 29.90            | 1/               | 1/               | 30.25          | 28.10            | 26.20                |
| 55-Ft. Class   | 2        | 49.00            | 1/               | 53.50            | 1/               | 1/               | 51.25          | 46.90            | 43.00                |
| "  | 3        | 41.80            | 1/               | 45.10            | 1/               | 1/               | 42.95          | 40.50            | 36.75                |
| "  | 4        | 38.50            | 1/               | 36.75            | 1/               | 1/               | 37.65          | 35.85            | 33.90                |
| 60-Ft. Class   | 2        | 57.30            | 1/               | 61.70            | 1/               | 1/               | 60.00          | 54.55            | 49.90                |
| "  | 3        | 48.75            | 1/               | 53.85            | 1/               | 1/               | 51.40          | 47.70            | 43.90                |
| 65-Ft. Class   | 2        | 64.85            | 1/               | 70.60            | 1/               | 1/               | 67.75          | 62.60            | 57.20                |
| "  | 3        | 55.95            | 1/               | 62.30            | 1/               | 1/               | 60.00          | 55.65            | 48.50                |
| 70-Ft. Class   | 2        | 74.20            | 1/               | 81.90            | 1/               | 1/               | 78.05          | 70.95            | 65.40                |
| "  | 3        | 65.50            | 1/               | 70.00            | 1/               | 1/               | 67.75          | 64.40            | 59.75                |
| 75-Ft. Class   | 2        | 86.20            | 1/               | 1/               | 1/               | 1/               | 86.15          | 82.65            | 79.55                |
| "  | 3        | 78.35            | 1/               | 1/               | 1/               | 1/               | 77.10          | 72.40            | 69.97                |
| 80-Ft. Class   | 2        | 99.30            | 1/               | 1/               | 1/               | 1/               | 98.90          | 94.65            | 92.70                |
| "  | 3        | 87.95            | 1/               | 1/               | 1/               | 1/               | 86.60          | 81.85            | 79.40                |

AVERAGE PRICES PAID TO LOUISIANA TIMBER PRODUCERS BY TYPES OF INDUSTRIES, OCTOBER-DECEMBER, 197

WITH COMPARISONS

Forest Service Sales are excluded from following reported prices

|                          |  | Area 1    | Area 2    | Area 3    | Area 4    | Area 5    | STATE AVERAGE  |                  |                      |
|--------------------------|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------|------------------|----------------------|
|                          |  |           |           |           |           |           | Oct.-Dec. 1976 | Previous Quarter | Same Period Year Ago |
| 3. Pulpwood, Per Cord:   |  | (Dollars) | (Dollars) | (Dollars) | (Dollars) | (Dollars) | (Dollars)      | (Dollars)        | (Dollars)            |
| Pine, Stumpage           |  | 7.25      | 5.85      | 6.95      | 5.45      | 6.60      | 6.80           | 6.80             | 6.40                 |
| Pine, FOB Car            |  | 31.65     | <u>1/</u> | 30.95     | <u>1/</u> | 30.65     | 31.05          | 30.20            | 29.90                |
| Hardwood, Mixed Stumpage |  | 2.90      | 2.90      | 3.00      | 3.00      | 2.65      | 2.95           | 2.80             | 2.75                 |
| Hardwood, Mixed FOB Car  |  | 27.40     | <u>1/</u> | 25.45     | <u>1/</u> | 26.00     | 26.20          | 25.95            | 27.40                |

1/ Insufficient number of quotes to report on area basis but included in Statewide average.

Note: The Doyle log scale is basis for board feet measurement.

The year 1977 should be a good year for the forestry interests in Louisiana. Projections are for an expanding economy with steady increases in the demand for forest products.

At least a slight increase in the timber market is anticipated because of increase in housing starts in 1977. This projection is based on the 40% increase chalked up in 1976 combined with housing supports expected to be implemented by the Carter administration.

Paper, fiberboard and lumber production will all feel the stimulus of the healthier economy. However, Louisiana paper industries will continue to feel a money shortage for expansions. The shortage is a result of the expense for pollution control and the spiraling cost for increasing capacity.

The long-range outlook for timber growers in Louisiana appears bright. The reasons for the rosy picture are that industries are "getting back on their feet" and the needs for wood will increase with the population.

1/ Prepared by Dr. Al C. Main, Forestry Specialist (Management & Economics) LSU  
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